

SCOTT COUNTY KICKER.

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CONDENSED BY THE EDITOR.

The Story of the Crime of Amalgamated Briefly Told. Lawson Tells of the Effect on the Whole People.

The story of the Crime of Amalgamated, as told by Mr. Lawson, is very long and would take up too much of the space of the Kicker, hence I have decided, to condense it in a way that will require less space and yet give the important facts in a way to be understood.

Last week we got to where Mr. Lawson advertised the shares of the Amalgamated Copper Co. for sale over the signatures of the officers of the National City Bank—the bank that the government at Washington supplies with the people's money free of interest. It is a government depository through which the people's money is loaned back to them and the stockholders of the bank live fat off the interest.

What is called "sound finance" and "high finance" is nothing more than artistic and systematic robbery—a method by which one can take what his neighbor has and yet keep out of jail. It is legalized robbery.

The Amalgamated Company was incorporated by a lot of office boys and clerks and capitalised at \$75,000,000. The capital was represented by the office-boys' check that was held by the bank until money could be gathered in from the people by the sale of stock to cover the original cost of the copper properties, which was about one-third the amount of the capitalization—a very small percent of water when compared with the 99-per-cent-water investments offered the public today.

It was considered good property and through Mr. Lawson it was placed upon the market. It was agreed between Mr. Rogers, Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Lawson that enough stock should be sold the public to pay the original cost of the venture and the expense—about \$30,000,000. This would leave them \$45,000,000 of the stock that cost them nothing and yet give them control of the whole.

The stock was to be sold in sections—the first sale to amount to \$5,000,000. While the whole of the stock was advertised to sell, yet the insiders had no idea of the confidence the public had in copper, owing to Lawson's work, and it was understood and agreed that they should retain all but \$5,000,000.

To guard against oversubscription the advertisement gave the bank the privilege to reject any bids. Up to this point all seemed fair—judged by modern business methods.

This was six years ago, when a flotation of a ten million dollar enterprise was regarded as the limit, and the seventy-five million of the Amalgamated company was an unusual undertaking. However, the people went hog wild and the money poured into the National City Bank until the whole of the stock was subscribed for five times over—a total of four hundred and twelve million dollars.

Subscribers were required to accompany their bids with 5 per cent of the whole. In other words the stock was offered at the par value of \$100 per share, and if one wanted to bid for ten shares the bid had to be accompanied by \$50—or \$5 a share. When the stock was allotted the remaining \$95 per share became due.

When the money came pouring in beyond their fondest expectations, it was then that Rogers, Rockefeller and the president of the bank, Stillman, decided to eclipse all former efforts to rob the public, and here is what they did in spite of the protests of Mr. Lawson:

Instead of \$5,000,000 of the original they issued \$15,000,000 heavily watered stock to the public. Instead of granting one share for every \$5 deposited they granted only one share in every five subscribed-for. The effect was:

1. The \$15,000,000 shares were worth no more than the original five million that was intended for the public, and therefore each share was worth only one-third as much as before the water was injected.

2. Having received only one share in five bid for, the pirates applied the whole of the 5 per cent deposit on the shares that were awarded, thus making the first payment 25 per cent, which forced the bidders either to put up the remaining 75 per cent, or else loose what had been paid in.

To make the deception complete, and to assure the public that all was well, the bank announced that it would loan to GOOD firms ninety per cent of the face value of the stock and the brokers dealt with customers on this basis. But, mind you, the firms had to be GOOD.

Mr. Lawson was dethroned be-

cause he objected to the criminal proceedings. He was put outside the breastworks of the "System" and ex-Gov. Flower succeeded him as the market manipulator for the gang. Gradually the gang "unloaded" and depressed the price to \$33 per share. The GOOD firms that had loaned on the strength of the bank's assurance, or that had borrowed from the bank were up in the air. They that could made good the shortage and they that could not were forced to the wall. The path of Amalgamated everywhere was covered with wreckage—defalcations, suicides and felons.

After selling to the public at \$100 per share these pirates' ought to be back within a few days at \$33—a profit of \$67 per share. The total amount of their loot in the transaction was \$30,000,000. And on the following Sunday they worshiped in the most fashionable church in New York.

Commenting upon the result of such transactions Mr. Lawson says: "A few men cannot deprive even a few thousand of so great a sum as thirty six million dollars without working untold injury upon the entire body of the people. Such a stupendous sum looted from the coffers of the many and piled in the vaults of three or four men, unbalances the whole economic structure of the nation. The consequences of that act do not end in the series of defalcations and bankruptcies, imprisonments and suicides, in the ruined homes and wrecked careers, that follow in its immediate wake. In the grip of these plunderers entrenched in the stronghold of finance each of these fished millions becomes a new weapon of oppression. Because of the crime of Amalgamated every pound of food that goes to sustain life in the American people, every shingle on every roof that shelters the American people, every mile of transportation for man or freight in America; in fact, every necessity and every luxury of the American people has had added to its cost some fractional increase, representing in the aggregate tens and tens of millions annually, which, flowing into the "System's" coffers, strengthen and extend its stupendous grip upon the property of the nation.

"Our country for a generation has been prosperous beyond the dreams of man, yet what have the masses of our people to show for it. A better, a higher, and a MORE EXPENSIVE standard of living—that is all. That this prosperity which is our national boast will last forever is incredible. Sooner or later will come one of the times when Nature frowns and sends her floods, her droughts, and her epidemics of disease. Is the American people prepared, by its long sustained prosperity, to bridge over the period of want and suffering?

The truth is that the mass of our population has not sufficient surplus laid by to last over thirty days of such an unlucky interval. All the unearned increment of national prosperity the "System" has captured and capitalized. Not only have the people been deprived of the profits of their labor, but this capitalized prosperity is the stern instrument by which new burdens are laid on their shoulders and new taxes are exacted from their wages. But for the plundering "System" the great mass of our people could sit in the shade of their husbanded harvests and laugh to scorn the frowns of fortune. Now, I say, God help the nation when Nature, tired from her great work, rests, and the people, too, are compelled to rest—then will come an awful awakening. When the millions face famine and realize for the first time that their gigantic storehouses, filled to bursting with the surplus of the past are the property of the few who cannot even count the contents, much less use them—when they realize that these hoarded treasures are as far beyond their starved reach as are the violets and daisies beyond the picking of the galleys-alive, then they will appreciate how much deeper and more damnable are the crimes of the "System" such as that of Amalgamated and its ilk, than even national tragedies like the assassination of Lincoln, Garfield, and McKinley, at each of which all the people held aloft their hands in horror.

Why is it that the millions of intelligent, able-bodied Americans, who could crush the tribe of Rockefeller as elephants crush snakes, rise with each sun and dig and delve and suffer that a Rogers may wallow in wealth and an Armour gain a great

ter income than the Rothschilds? Why are they so easily hoodwinked into imagining that the elaborate reports detailing the immense and growing wealth of the country represents their own well-being and affluence? Because the wise men of the "System" know human nature, know that most men and women accept unquestioningly the conditions they find surrounding them. Each day it is pounded into the heads of the people through a hundred agencies that they are the greatest and most flourishing of peoples and that the laws and customs which regulate their lives and rights are the best in all the world. How shall the people know that these glowing rumors, these propitious tidings, are but the siren songs of the "System" under the spell of which they are despoiled of their savings?

WHAT ABOUT IT?

Will Chaffe Get the New Frisco Car Shops? People are wondering what will happen at the new townsite that is being platted at the Witt farm, near Rockview. The name of the town was first given out as Frisco, but was changed to Chaffe—the name of the real estate firm that is putting up the money.

The Frisco shops are now at the Cape and the business men there hoot at the idea of losing them. In Scott county it seems to be accepted as settled that the shops will come here. Commenting on the report that the Frisco people were connected with the Chaffe deal, and that the shops would be moved, a prominent business man of Cape Girardeau is quoted as saying:

"I am positive that the Frisco or any of its officials have nothing to do with this deal, if there was one. The Chaffe real estate company is not the Frisco, and if they have bought any land they are going to sell it on speculation. If they can start a rumor that the Frisco will move the shops down there they can sell the land at an enormous price to gullible people. What the Frisco itself may do is to establish switch tracks so that its freight can be transferred to the Cotton Belt."

The Kicker admits being at sea. There are all sorts of rumors afloat and one is to the effect that the Chaffe people are professional townsite boomers. They claim, so I am informed, that they will have a town of 5,000 inhabitants with a very few months—three or four, I believe. This is quite a claim and reminds one of a blast from Cooksey's hot air furnace. But that there will be "something doing" up there is quite certain. Says the Cape Republican:

"It is well known that immense switch tracks, a round house and, perhaps, shops will be located near Rockview. It is explained by officials of the road that these are necessary because of the transfer business between the Cotton Belt and the Frisco at that point. Engines working at that business must be laid up there and a certain amount of repair work will have to be done there. That will not affect the work that is going on at the shops at Cape."

A report that is believed to be reliable has reached Benton to the effect that D. A. Glenn and Louis Houck, of Cape Girardeau, went to St. Louis to consult Frisco officials, and were assured that the shops would remain at the Cape, but that the yards would be located at Chaffe.

GOT IT MIXED AGAIN.

As usual, our authorities cannot agree as to what is the law. Game Warden Rodes construes the new law to mean that a man cannot hunt in his home county without a license, and has instructed the county clerks of the state to charge every person who goes out hunting \$1 for license 15 cents for clerk's fee.

Representative Wamsley, who introduced the bill in the legislature, says the game warden has placed a wrong construction on the law and that it was not the intention of the legislature to require a man to pay license in his home county.

We will know what is the law when the supreme court passes upon it. In the mean time "ignorance of law is no defense for its violation."

How ridiculously ridiculous!

The First National Bank of Topeka has gone under with its millions. As usual, the president is reported sick. This man was opposed to the government going into the banking business. He preferred to have the snap reserved for him and his kind.

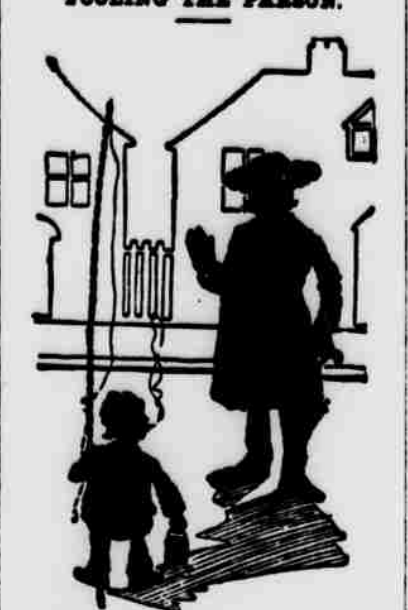
Printer Wanted!
KICKER OFFICE.

Strunous.
"Yes, Gladys, he is rich, but the mere fact of his being rich does not mean anything. Why doesn't he do some thing? This is a world of endeavor."
"Why, papa, he is an artist."
"H'm I've never seen anything of his work."
"You ought to see the meerschaum pipe he colored."—Houston Post.

Social Martyrs.
"The man who serves on a jury often makes a great deal of sacrifice for the public good," said one juror. "It is hard work to listen to all this testimony."
"It is not only hard work," answered the other, "but it is mighty demoralizing."—Washington Star.

Satisfied.
She said she'd deed her real estate where'er she gave her hand; Thereat the duke's content was great— He'd viewed the promised land. —Houston Post.

FOOLING THE PARSON.



The Parson—I hope you are not going fishing on Sunday, my little man? The Kid—Oh, no, sir. I am merely carrying this rod so that those wicked boys across the street won't suspect I'm on my way to Sunday school. —Royal Magazine.

Contrast.
The human being chafes of spring, And customed toll doth shrink; The mitebe doesn't stop to sing, But settles down to work. —Washington Star.

Diagnosing It.
"Doctor, I feel tired and all fagged out. What do you suppose is the matter with me?"
"Where's your wife?"
"Just gone out for a walk, why?"
"I'd like to look at her tongue." —Houston Post.

Rural View.
Mr. Crawford—Here is an article in this magazine telling how to get rid of crows' feet, Mandy.
Mrs. Crawford—Crows' feet? Why, Hiram, you want something that will get rid of the whole crow. —Chicago Daily News.

At Bacon Ridge.
Silas—T. editor of the Early Call isn't such a bad chap, after all.
Cyrus—By heck, did yer succeed in selling him a spring poem?
Silas—No, but he took a peck of sasaparilla for a year's subscription. —Chicago Daily News.

Handicapped.
Myer—You say your grandfather had three doctors and they were unable to agree as to the nature of his disease?
Gee—Yes. You see, they were unable to get together and hold a consultation. —Chicago Daily News.

Comparison.
"Mr. Bilgus insists on telling all the bright things his children say."
"Yes," answered Miss Coyne, "and even at that he is more entertaining than when he tries to be original." —Washington Star.

A Theorem.
Rich, Patroness of Genius—So you consider the young pianist a real phenomenon?
Critic—Yes, he is quite good enough to escape being a fad. —Brooklyn Life.

Foreign Travel.
"Do you think that foreign travel benefits a man's health?"
"To some extent," answered the beef magnate. "Anyhow, it helps to ease his mind." —Washington Star.

Shy Was Willing.
"If not yourself," said the wealthy bachelor to a charming young lady "whom would you rather be?"
"Yours truly," was the immediate reply. —Cincinnati Enquirer.

A Tongue-Tying Disease.
Madge—Did the doctor tell you that you had any pronounced disease?
Dolly—Yes, dear; but I couldn't pronounce it if I tried for a week. —Town Topics.

The Prevailing Fad.
Flippin—That puzzle I invented is having quite a sale, but it doesn't bring in much money.
Flippin—Don't you think you could dramatize it? —The Cynic.

Transformation.
Yeast—I never saw a woman so fond of animals as this.
Crimson—After I. V. W. she's a good deal kinder out of her hair. —Washington Star.

Ominous.
"Our little Willie writes a beautiful hand, George."
"Yes, my dear. But I've never seen a hand like that on a check." —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Practically Dead.
No one who does not work can truly enjoy anything else. —President Raymond.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Says No Man Who Has Ever Been Convicted of Violations of Saloon Laws Can Legally Be Granted License.

Jackson Mo. June 20.—Attorney General Hadley has today forwarded an opinion to Prosecuting Attorney Dues, that under the law the county court cannot grant a dramshop license to any person who has ever been convicted of any violation of the dramshop law and the Attorney General further gives his opinion that it does not matter how long before the application is filed that the applicant was convicted of a violation of the dramshop law.

It has become generally understood that after two years such a person could again obtain a license to conduct a dramshop.

The occasion of the Attorney General forwarding his opinion on this question was caused by an attempt being made by John Metz of Dutchtown to obtain a license as a dramshop keeper. Metz having been convicted in our circuit court two years ago for selling liquor on Sunday. The county court was advised by the prosecuting attorney that Metz could not under the law ever again hold a dramshop license in this state.

Selling liquor on Sunday seems to be under this ruling, "the unpardonable sin."

THE SOUTHEAST.

Charleston Enterprise: During Wednesday morning's heavy rainfall at about 8:30 o'clock, lightning struck a small wall-tent belonging to George Langedale's independent thresher outfit as it stood in James L. Byrd's wheatfield, about three-quarters of a mile northeast of Charleston. In the tent were five young men, workmen belonging to the outfit. It was their sleeping department, the rain kept them indoors, where they were lounging about. The bolt seems to have struck the forward pole supporting the canvas. At the instant of its striking Homer Stewart was arising from the ground where he had been lying, with the expressed intention of leaving the tent. He was hurled to the ground and instantly killed. The other occupants were stunned to insensibility, and it was several hours before they recovered from the shock. One of them, Leslie Norton, had a number of splinters from the shattered tent-pole driven into his left leg.

Missouri Sharpshooter: One day last week two hundred men of the laboring class captured a freight train in Kansas to ride out of the state and back home on. Every year the newspapers advertise that Kansas wants from ten to twenty thousand hands to help take care of her immense wheat crop; this causes a rush from other states who find when they get to Kansas, they are not needed and must tramp back home as best they can. They find the Kansas wheatfields fully supplied with their home product and cannot even get work enough to get money to pay their way back and must either go on foot or steal a ride on the train to get home again.

Missouri Wreck: The bank of Salomon & Salomon, Clinton, Mo., failed last week for nearly a million dollars. This is a big failure for a town the size of Clinton, which has less than ten thousand inhabitants. Some of the depositors will likely be ruined. Those left along in years will probably never be able to get on their feet again in property matters. The reason of the failure is said to be heavy loans to Casey, the short-horn cattle planter, who went broke some time ago. Government banks would furnish the people with an absolutely safe place for their money. A government bank would not back plungers of any kind.

Sikeston Democrat: M. G. Gresham, late secretary of the Farmington asylum, has been in Sikeston this week making preparations toward moving back. Milo's present hobby is the railroad from Sikeston to Hickman, and he has an influence behind him in the enterprise that makes it look like it will materialize. (When Milo reaches the stock-watering point in railroad building, he should keep in mind that we have a \$12,000 well yet—already). —Kicker.

W. M. Jones shipped two car loads of hogs, about 254 head, from Howell County. He had the floors of each car sprinkled with wood ashes and ordered the hogs watered at West Plains, which was done. When the hogs reached Willow Springs the entire number was dead. The supposition is they must have eaten of the ashes and charcoal after drinking, which formed a lye and eat out their stomachs.

The governor of Illinois has ordered the lid on in his state—and Cairo is in Illinois.

An automobile line from Willow Springs to Rolla, a distance of eighty miles, has been organized with a capital of \$50,000. The company will start with three machines. The passenger autos will make a trip a day—one starting from each end of the line—and the freight will make a round trip in two days.

Dunklin Democrat: Rev. Furlong, of New Madrid, writes that Archbishop Glenn, of St. Louis, has just bought 12,000 acres of land near Campbell, which will be used for the home for people. This is a part of a colonization scheme which will add largely to the population of Southeast Missouri.

While bathing in a creek near Iron-ton Jacob Lopez, a young merchant, plunged head-first into the water and nothing more was seen of him until his body was found 250 yards below. A gash in his head indicated that in diving his head struck a rock. He was 34 years old and unmarried.

The Poplar Bluff Republican says that the Scott County Republican, published at Sikeston by Joe Moore, is a credit to its publisher. I have noticed, on various occasions, some very uncomplimentary things said of Joe, but that is the hardest knock of them all.

Charleston Enterprise: A recent ruling of the state railroad commissioners relieves the shippers of wheat to St. Louis of the two dollars per car charge that has heretofore been held against them for trackage. The commission decided that such charge is illegal.

Iron-ton Register: The hauling of so much freight over the new Thiels bridge that formerly passed over this portion of the road, is throwing many of the railroad men on this division out of a job, and some of them will have to seek employment elsewhere.

Billy Waters, proprietor of the Southeast Missourian, has knocked the plum that Milo Gresham had at the Farmington Insane Asylum, and A. G. Mathewson has charge of the paper. Mr. Waters is secretary and Mrs. Waters is Matron at the Asylum.

The government land office located at Iron-ton, was closed up Friday. The first records of the office show sales of land in May, 1821. First the office was located at St. Louis, then at Cape Girardeau, Jackson and Iron-ton.

At a special election held in Iron county John I. Marshall was elected sheriff to succeed John W. Polk, who was murdered by the Spangh brothers. Marshall had no opposition.

At a special election held last week Jackson voted to bond the city for \$27,000 to put in waterworks and electric lights.

Charles F. McMullin, of Sikeston, and Miss Mattie Warren, of Cape Girardeau, were married at the Cape last week.

TWINE PLANT A SUCCESS.

News from Jefferson City is to the effect that every pound of binder twine manufactured by the state factory was consumed by Missouri farmers and all orders could not be supplied. The output of the factory was over half a million pounds. It seems that 800,000 pounds of twine were needed in the state. The binder twine industry and the press were so quiet about it that the public did not know there was anything doing of the kind. Our merchants are doing a good business in twine, and are looking up on the twine-making industry. But they'll know better next year.

The factory was run only a half its capacity this season, and the spring it was thought the output could not all be sold. "The loss of the season's business," says Warden Matt Holl, "demonstrates the fact that the prison binding twine plant is a complete success and that the state's investment will be profitable in the highest degree. Next year we will sell a million pounds and do it easily."

How do you like that sort of talk, Mr. Taxpayer? "The state's investment will be profitable in the highest degree." That is public ownership. The finkies of capital call it "anarchy" and "socialism."

The saloon-keepers of St. Louis county were bolder than ever Sunday and opened their front doors. The officials of St. Louis county are Republicans wearing the brewery collar and refuse to obey the governor's orders, if there is no way around it, then the people hope to see Governor Folk send the state troops against this lawless crowd and settle which it is as to which is supreme in Missouri—law or booze.

If you come to court next week, make yourself at home about the Kicker office. This paper has many patrons I have never met and I want to get acquainted with all.

IT IS BOUND TO COME.
The railroads of Missouri have gone into the Federal courts to restrict the maximum freight rate law passed by the last legislature. If they defeat it, thus showing that the people cannot enact laws that will regulate railroads, they will give the public ownership advocates the biggest club they ever had. —Stone Co. Oracle (Rep.)

The public ownership advocates are getting all sorts of clubs handed them every day. The thing is coming to a head just as fast as it can. That the courts will side with the railroads is a foregone conclusion. That is what modern courts are for. There hasn't been a federal judge appointed in twenty years who didn't have a certificate of good character from the railroad and like corporations. The "captains of industry" and their lawyers look after such matters very carefully.

The Chicago Examiner says that in Chicago "there are lawyers who get business because they can enter the back door of a judge's chamber."

What is true of Chicago is true everywhere. Corporations do not employ lawyers who cannot count nominating conventions. That is where they are expected to earn the big salaries they receive. And when lawyers secure for one of their number a job as judge, why shouldn't they enter the back door?

Only last week a Missouri supreme court judge telegraphed the attorney of the Cotton Belt railroad for this end of the state notifying him of his appointment by the court as a member of the board of examiners for admissions to the bar. Under the old law the circuit court appointed a few lawyers to pass upon the qualifications of an applicant, but the new law says that applicants for license to practice law must be examined by a board appointed by the supreme court. Attorney W. H. Miller, of Jackson, was a strong supporter of Judge Fox. In turn Judge Fox was a strong supporter of Mr. Miller for the job of examiner and telegraphed his appointment.

But the jig is about up. The people are beginning to understand the lawyer-politician and the muzzled press. One can now speak of public ownership without being ridiculed by corporation hirelings. The scandal and unadulterated robbery that was brought to light because the thieves fell out among themselves in the Equitable life affair has caused some mighty able writers to suggest that government insurance is the only way out.

It is coming—public ownership is. There it no way around it. People are tiring of the corrupt government that is the result of private ownership. People are tired of laws that makes it a crime for the poor to rob the rich and honorable for the rich to rob the poor.

The money bank failures that are being reported from every section of the country will cause the people to wonder if the government couldn't do about as well.

BIG FIRE AT PAMA.

PAMA, Mo., July 4.—Fire destroyed the business portion of this thriving New Madrid county village this morning. The loss is about \$50,000 partially covered by insurance. The fire is thought to have been of incendiary origin and broke out in the store of Weather & Co. and before it could be extinguished the fire had destroyed two hotels, two grocery stores, two general stores, the meat market, and destroyed a dozen families of homes. Pama lies at the crossing of the Gulf and Cotton Belt.

Last week twenty members of the local that were indicted by a Chicago grand jury, charging conspiracy. And now these criminals are trying to escape prosecution by injunction proceedings. Truly, the rich believe in government by injunction.

Business Locals.

I have farms for sale of various sizes in Scott county near Illinois, Kelso, New Hamburg, Oram, Morley, Benton, Cary, Blodgett, Diehlstadt and Commerce. Also improved and unimproved lands in the state of Arkansas. If you want to sell list your farm or property with me. I stand a hundred chances to sell to your one. If you want to buy, see D. H. HARPER, Benton, Mo.

We will close our entire stock of groceries, etc., at cost and carriage for cash. Parties knowing themselves indebted to us will come forward and settle as we are going to close out our business.

WALKER & SON.

Look! The blacksmithshop at Edna is now open for business. Please bring us your work, both wood and iron. Also pay 50c per 100 lbs. for wrought scrap iron. Geo. Kenner.

The noted saddle and harness stallion, Dean Deerfoot, owned by W. C. Lambert, will stand at the Lambert homestead south of Benton during the remainder of the season. For Sale—Full blood Poland-China hogs. Chas. Reeser, Benton.